

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--U.S. Patent Application Number 10/683,933, entitled "A System And Method For  
5 Vertical Perimeter Protection" by Sunay Tripathi[[.]] and Bruce Curtis, filed October 10, 2003, is incorporated herein by reference.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

10 --U.S. Patent Application Number 10/683,720, entitled "Multi-Threaded Accept Mechanism In A Vertical Perimeter Communication Environment" by Sunay Tripathi, filed October 10, 2003, is incorporated herein by reference.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

15 --U.S. Patent Application Number 10/683,897, entitled "A Method And System For Processing Communications Packets According To Event Lists" by Sunay Tripathi and E. Nordmark, filed October 10, 2003, is incorporated herein by reference.--

20 Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--U.S. Patent Application Number 10/683,959, entitled "Running A Communication Protocol State Machine Through A Packet Classifier" by Sunay Tripathi and Bruce Curtis, filed October 10, 2003, is incorporated herein by reference.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--U.S. Patent Application Number 10/683,934, entitled "A Method For Batch Processing Received Message Packets" by Sunay Tripathi and S. Kamatala, filed October 10, 2003,

5 is incorporated herein by reference.--